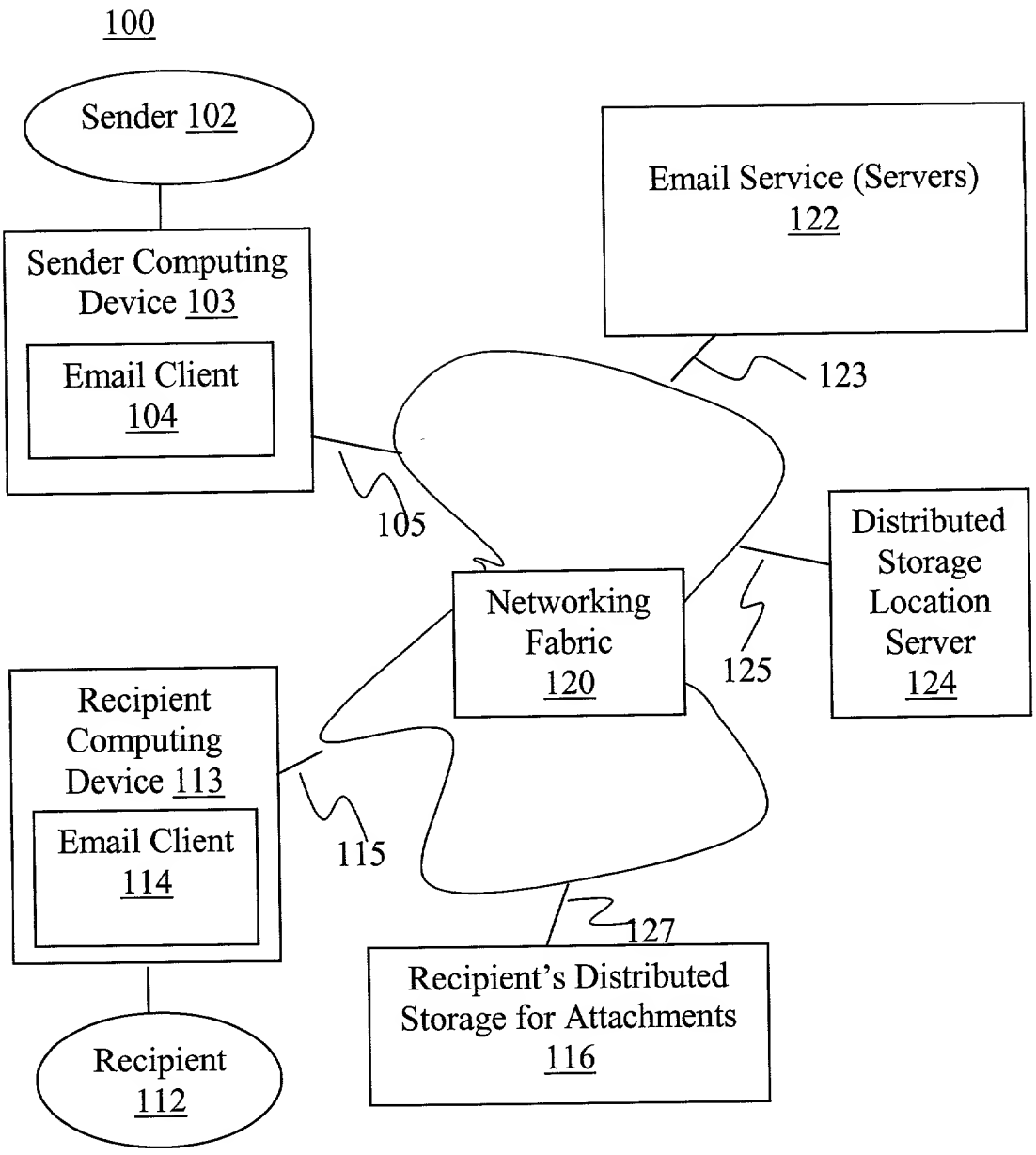
100
Sender 102
Sender Computing Device 103
Email Client 104
Email Service (Servers) 122
123
105
Networking Fabric 120
Distributed Storage Location Server 124
125
Recipient Computing Device 113
Email Client 114
115
127
Recipient's Distributed Storage for Attachments 116
Recipient 112

Figure 1

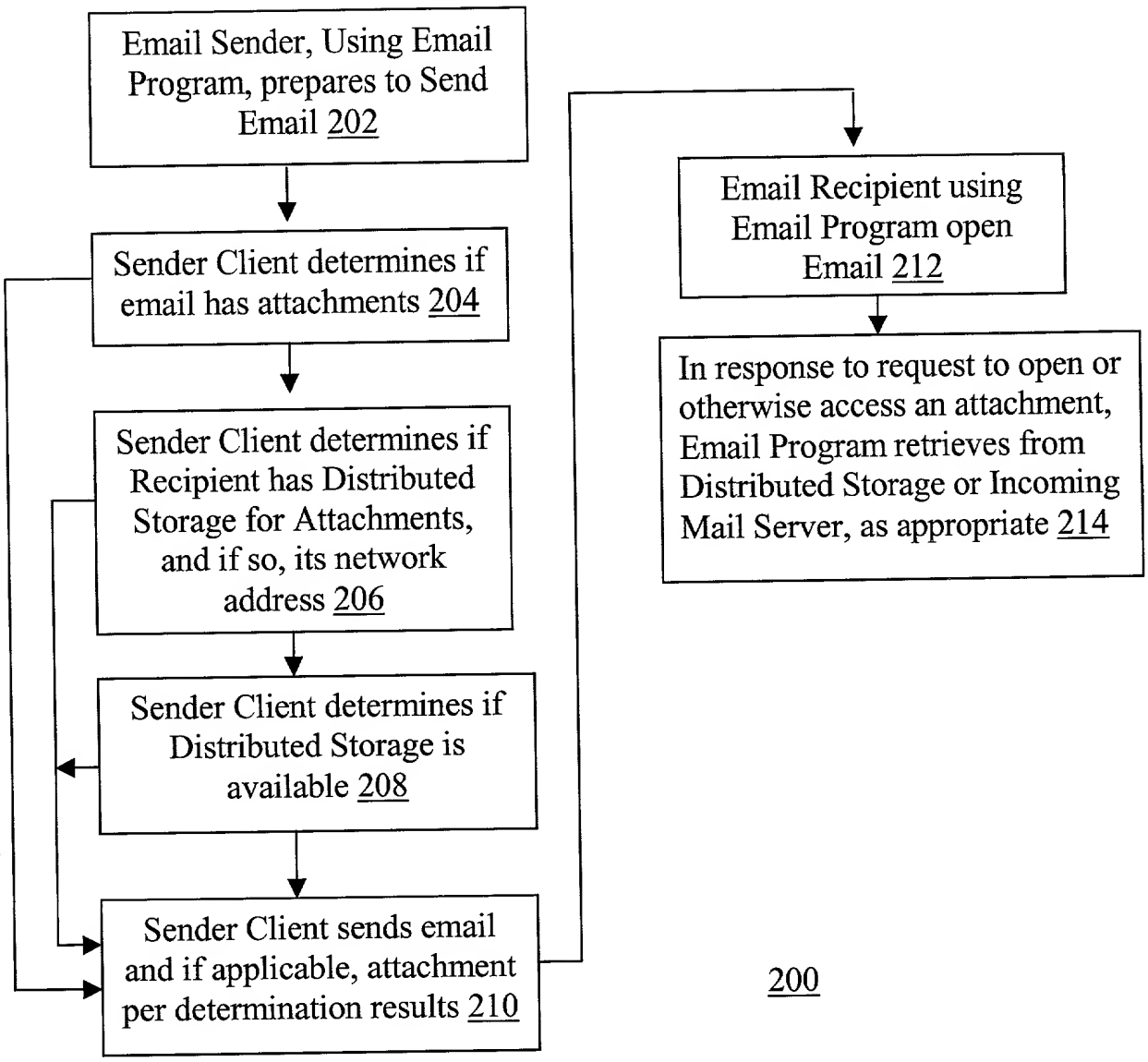
Email Sender, Using Email Program, prepares to Send Email 202
Sender Client determines if email has attachments 204
Sender Client determines if Recipient has Distributed Storage for Attachments, and if so, its network address 206
Sender Client determines if Distributed Storage is available 208
Sender Client sends email and if applicable, attachment per determination results 210
Email Recipient using Email Program open Email 212
In response to request to open or otherwise access an attachment, Email Program retrieves from Distributed Storage or Incoming Mail Server, as appropriate 214
200

Figure 2

Distributed Storage Location Table 300

User ID ~ 302	Distributed Storage Network Address ~ 304	Current Availability ~ 306

Figure 3

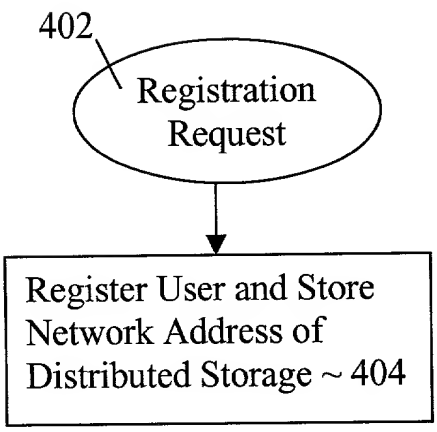

Fig. 4a

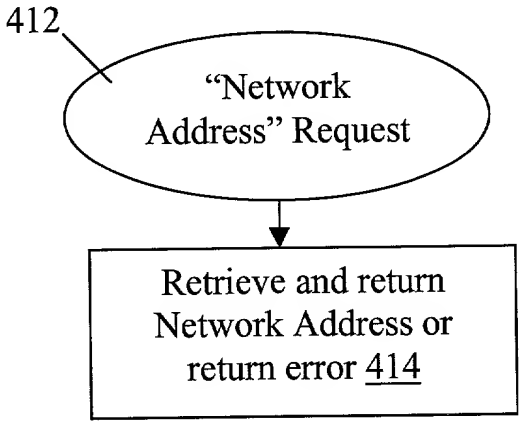

Fig. 4b

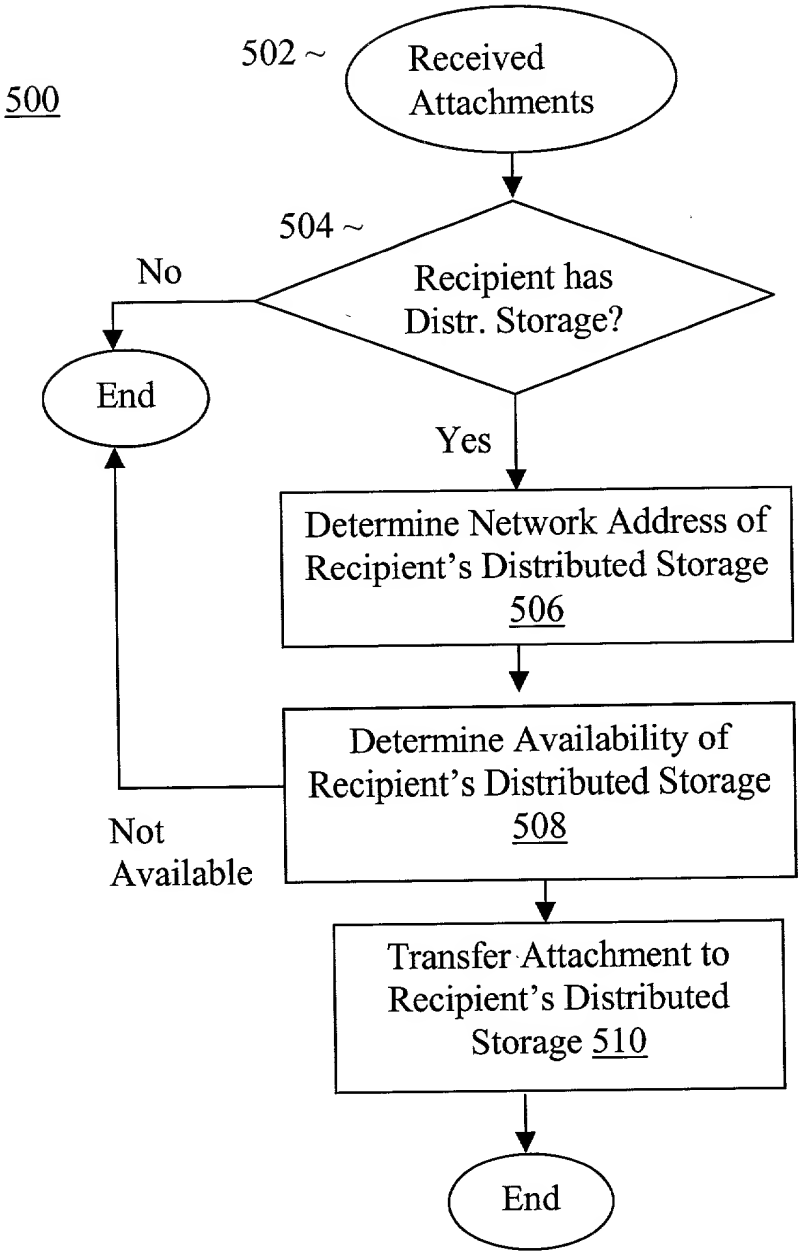
500
502 ~
Received Attachments
504 ~
Recipient has Distr. Storage?
No
End
Yes
Determine Network Address of Recipient's Distributed Storage 506
Determine Availability of Recipient's Distributed Storage 508
Not Available
Transfer Attachment to Recipient's Distributed Storage 510
End

Figure 5

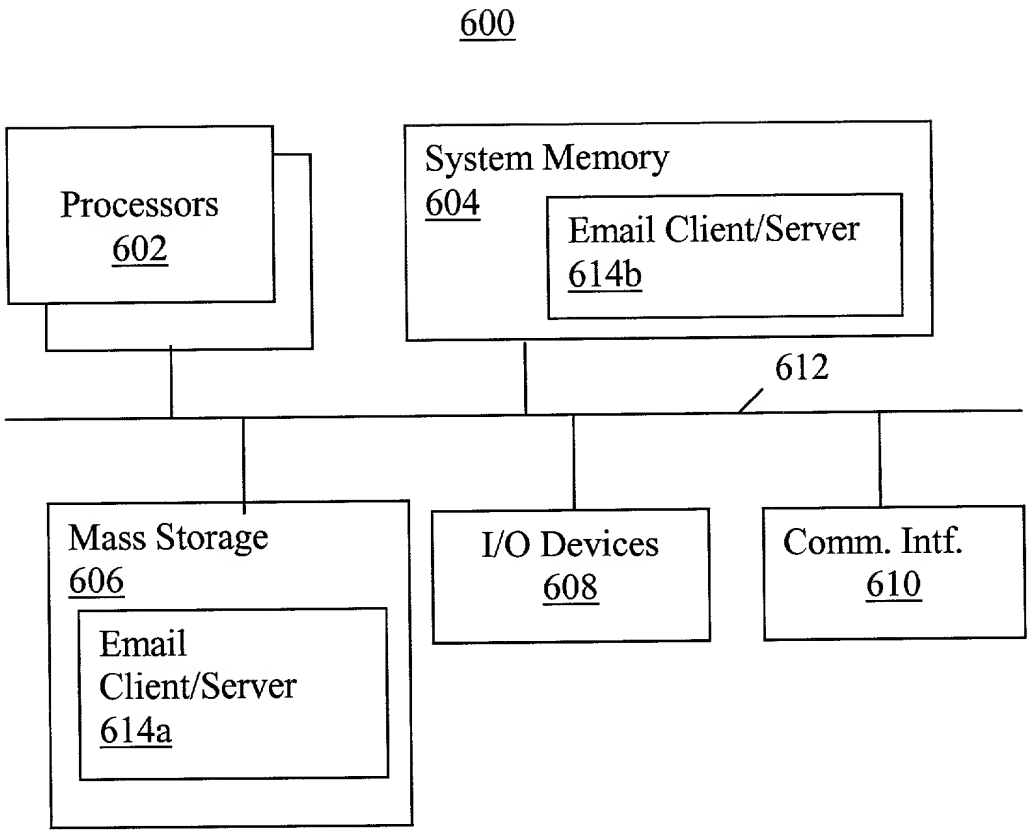
600
Processors
602
System Memory
604
Email Client/Server
614b
612
Mass Storage
606
Email
Client/Server
614a
I/O Devices
608
Comm. Intf.
610

Figure 6